

Whereas 80 percent of older adults have at least 1 chronic condition and nearly 70 percent of Medicare beneficiaries have 2 or more chronic conditions;

Whereas more than 868,000 people in the United States die of heart disease or stroke every year, costing the health care system of the United States \$214,000,000,000 per year and causing \$138,000,000,000 in lost productivity on the job;

Whereas, each year, more than 1,700,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with cancer and almost 600,000 die from it, costing an estimated \$174,000,000,000 in 2020;

Whereas more than 34,200,000 people in the United States have diabetes and another 88,000,000 adults in the United States have prediabetes, putting them at risk for type 2 diabetes, both of which cost a total estimated \$327,000,000,000 in medical costs for diagnosed diabetes and lost productivity in 2017;

Whereas obesity affects 19 percent of children and 42 percent of adults, including older adults who have obesity rates exceeding 37.5 percent in males and 39.4 percent in females, costing the health care system \$147,000,000,000 per year;

Whereas falls are the leading cause of injury, and injury-related death, among older adults and result in medical costs totaling \$50,000,000,000 per year, 75 percent of which are paid by Medicare and Medicaid;

Whereas approximately 20 percent of older adults experience some type of behavioral health concern, including anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, cognitive impairment, and substance use disorders, which are often factors in suicide among older adults;

Whereas factors that influence healthy aging include—

- (1) improving diet and exercise;
- (2) managing risk factors for physical and behavioral health conditions, as well as falls;
- (3) keeping up with regular health screenings and preventative care; and
- (4) staying socially active; and

Whereas, as of August 2021, nearly 11,000 senior centers serve 1,000,000 older adults aged 50 and older, helping them continue to be part of a community, exercise, and receive nutritious meals: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2021 as “Healthy Aging Month”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to provide opportunities for older individuals to continue to flourish by—

(A) emphasizing the importance of exercise, nutrition, health promotion, disease prevention, and social engagement;

(B) encouraging the balance of mind, body, and spirit, as older individuals can share their wisdom, experience, and skills with younger generations; and

(C) recognizing that people in the United States are living longer and a healthy lifestyle will help enhance later life experiences.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 404—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL RETIREMENT SECURITY MONTH, INCLUDING RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE VARIOUS TAX-PREFERRED RETIREMENT VEHICLES, INCREASING PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY, AND ENGAGING THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ON THE KEYS TO SUCCESS IN ACHIEVING AND MAINTAINING RETIREMENT SECURITY THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFETIMES

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

## S. RES. 404

Whereas people in the United States are living longer, and the cost of retirement is increasing significantly;

Whereas Social Security remains the bedrock of retirement income for the great majority of the people of the United States but was never intended by Congress to be the sole source of retirement income for families;

Whereas data from the Employee Benefit Research Institute indicates that, in the United States—

(1) up to 40 percent of households in which the head of household is between the ages of 35 and 64 are likely to run out of money in retirement; and

(2) the amount that workers have saved for retirement is much less than the amount those workers need to adequately fund their retirement years;

Whereas the financial literacy of workers in the United States is important so that those workers understand the need to save for retirement;

Whereas saving for retirement is a key component of overall financial health and security during retirement years, and the importance of financial literacy in planning for retirement must be advocated;

Whereas many workers may not—

(1) be aware of their various options in saving for retirement; or

(2) have focused on the importance of, and need for, saving for retirement and successfully achieving retirement security;

Whereas, although many employees have access to defined benefit and defined contribution plans through their employers to assist such employees in preparing for retirement, many of those employees may not be taking advantage of those plans at all or to the full extent allowed by Federal law;

Whereas saving for retirement is necessary even during economic downturns or market declines, underscoring the importance of continued contributions;

Whereas all workers, including public and private sector employees, employees of tax-exempt organizations, and self-employed individuals, can benefit from developing personal budgets and financial plans that include retirement savings strategies that take advantage of tax-preferred retirement savings vehicles;

Whereas effectively and sustainably withdrawing retirement resources throughout an individual's retirement years is as important and crucial as saving and accumulating funds for retirement; and

Whereas the month of October 2021 has been designated as “National Retirement Security Month”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Retirement Security Month, including raising public awareness of the importance of saving adequately for retirement;

(2) acknowledges the need to raise public awareness of the variety of tax-preferred retirement vehicles that are used by many people in the United States, but remain underutilized; and

(3) calls on States, localities, schools, universities, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe National Retirement Security Month with appropriate programs and activities, with the goal of increasing the retirement savings and personal financial literacy of all people in the United States and enhancing the retirement security of the people of the United States.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3834. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2792, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3835. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1301, to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans.

SA 3836. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3835 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1301, supra.

SA 3837. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1301, supra.

SA 3838. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3837 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1301, supra.

SA 3839. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3838 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the amendment SA 3837 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1301, supra.

SA 3840. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. WICKER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 558, to establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 3834.** Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2792, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**Subtitle —Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins**

**SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This subtitle may be cited as the “Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act of 2021”.

**SEC. 2. PRESUMPTION OF SERVICE CONNECTION FOR CERTAIN DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH EXPOSURE TO BURN PITS AND OTHER TOXINS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

**“§1119. Presumption of service connection for certain diseases associated with exposure to burn pits and other toxins**

“(a) PRESUMPTION OF SERVICE CONNECTION.—(1) For the purposes of section 1110 of this title, and subject to section 1113 of this title, a disease specified in paragraph (2) becoming manifest in a veteran described in paragraph (3) shall be considered to have been incurred in or aggravated during active military, naval, or air service, notwithstanding that there is no record of evidence of such disease during the period of such service.

“(2) The diseases specified in this paragraph are the following:

“(A) Asthma that was diagnosed after service in a country or territory for which a medal described in paragraph (3) was awarded.

“(B)(i) Head cancer of any type.

“(ii) Neck cancer of any type.

“(iii) Respiratory cancer of any type.

“(iv) Gastrointestinal cancer of any type.

“(v) Reproductive cancer of any type.

“(vi) Lymphoma cancer of any type.

“(vii) Lymphomatic cancer of any type.

“(viii) Kidney cancer.

“(ix) Brain cancer.

“(x) Melanoma.

“(C) Chronic bronchitis.

“(D) Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

“(E) Constructive bronchiolitis of obliterative bronchiolitis.

“(F) Emphysema.

“(G) Granulomatous disease.

“(H) Interstitial lung disease.

“(I) Pleuritis.

“(J) Pulmonary fibrosis.

“(K) Sarcoidosis.

“(L) Any other disease listed under subsection (a)(2) of section 1116 of this title or for which a presumption of service connection is warranted pursuant to regulations prescribed under section subsection (b)(1) of such section.

“(M) Any other disease with respect to which final regulations have been prescribed under subsection (c)(3).

“(3) A veteran described in this paragraph is any veteran who on or after August 2, 1990, was awarded any of the following:

“(A) The Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

“(B) The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

“(C) The Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M-device.

“(D) The Armed Forces Service Medal.

“(E) The Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

“(F) The Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal.

“(G) The Iraqi Campaign Medal.

“(H) The Southwest Asia Service Medal.

“(b) PROCESS TO ADD DISEASES THROUGH WRITTEN PETITION.—(1) In the case that the Secretary receives a written petition from an interested party to add a disease to the list of diseases specified in subsection (a)(2), not later than 90 days after the date of receipt of such petition, the Secretary shall request a determination by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (referred to in this section as the ‘National Academies’) with respect to whether there is a positive association between—

“(A) the exposure of humans to one or more covered toxins; and

“(B) the occurrence of the disease in humans.

“(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘interested party’ includes a representative of—

“(A) a congressionally chartered veterans service organization;

“(B) an organization that—

“(i) is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code;

“(ii) serves veterans or members of the Armed Forces; and

“(iii) has continuously operated for a period of five years or more preceding the date of the submittal of the written petition under paragraph (1);

“(C) a collective bargaining agent for civilian employees of the United States Government;

“(D) a nationally recognized medical association;

“(E) the National Academies; or

“(F) a State or political subdivision of a State.

“(c) DETERMINATIONS BY NATIONAL ACADEMIES.—

(1) If the Secretary receives a determination described in paragraph (2), not later than 180 days after receipt of such determination, the Secretary shall—

“(A) publish in the Federal Register proposed regulations to add the disease covered by the determination to the list of diseases specified in subsection (a)(2);

“(B) publish in the Federal Register, and submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives—

“(i) the decision of the Secretary not to publish such proposed regulations; and

“(ii) the basis for such decision, including specific medical science refuting the determination; or

“(C) publish in the Federal Register a decision that insufficient evidence exists to take action under subparagraph (A) or (B).

“(2) A determination described in this paragraph—

“(A) is a determination by the National Academies that there is a positive association between—

“(i) the exposure of humans to one or more covered toxins; and

“(ii) the occurrence of the disease in humans; and

“(B) may be made pursuant to—

“(i) a request from the Secretary under subsection (b); or

“(ii) an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies under section 3 of the Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act of 2021.

“(3)(A) Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary publishes any proposed regulations under paragraph (1)(A) for a disease, the Secretary shall prescribe final regulations for that disease.

“(B) Such regulations shall be effective on the date of issuance.

“(d) REFERENCE TO NATIONAL ACADEMIES.—

In the case that the Secretary enters into an agreement with another organization as described in section 3(h)(1) of the Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act of 2021, any reference in this section to the National Academies shall be treated as a reference to the other organization.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘covered toxin’ includes the following:

“(A) Any toxic chemical or toxic fume.

“(B) Hazardous waste, mixed waste, solid waste, or used oil (as those terms are defined in section 1004 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6903)).

“(C) Radiological waste.

“(D) Any other carcinogen.

“(2) The term ‘veterans service organization’ means an organization recognized by the Secretary for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of this title.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) WRITTEN PETITIONS.—With respect to a written petition described in section 1119(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), that was received by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs before the effective date described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make a request of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine under such section, as so added, not later than 90 days after such effective date.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1118 the following new item:

“1119. Presumption of service connection for certain diseases associated with exposure to burn pits and other toxins.”.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1113 of such title is amended by striking “or 1118” each place it appears and inserting “1118, or 1119”.

**SEC. 3. AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, AND MEDICINE CONCERNING THE EXPOSURE OF HUMANS TO BURN PITS AND OTHER TOXINS.**

(a) AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (referred to in this section as the “National Academies”) to perform the services covered by this section.

(2) TIMING.—The Secretary shall seek to enter into the agreement described in paragraph (1) not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) REVIEWS OF SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Under an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies, the National Academies shall review and summarize the scientific evidence, and assess the strength thereof, concerning the association between the exposure of humans to covered toxins and each disease suspected to be associated with such exposure.

(2) REVIEWS UPON REQUEST.—Under an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies under this section, the National Academies shall conduct a review described in paragraph (1) in response to each request made by the Secretary under section 1119(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, as added by section 2(a).

(c) SCIENTIFIC DETERMINATIONS CONCERNING DISEASES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For each disease reviewed under subsection (b), the National Academies shall determine (to the extent that available scientific data permit meaningful determinations) whether there is a positive association between the exposure of humans to one or more covered toxins and the occurrence of the disease in humans, taking into account the strength of the scientific evidence and the appropriateness of the statistical and epidemiological methods used to detect the association.

(2) SUBMISSIONS FOR REVIEWS UPON REQUEST.—Under an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies under this section, not later than 270 days after the date on which the Secretary transmits a request to the National Academies with respect to a disease under section 1119(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, as added by section 2(a), the National Academies shall submit to the Secretary the determination

made with respect to that disease under paragraph (1).

**(d) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL SCIENTIFIC STUDIES.—**

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Under an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies under this section, the National Academies shall make any recommendations it has for additional scientific studies to resolve areas of continuing scientific uncertainty relating to the exposure of humans to covered toxins.

(2) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In making recommendations for additional scientific studies, the National Academies shall consider—

(A) the scientific information that is available at the time of the recommendation;

(B) the value and relevance of the information that could result from additional studies; and

(C) the feasibility of carrying out such additional studies.

(e) **SUBSEQUENT REVIEWS.**—Under an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies under this section, the National Academies shall—

(1) conduct as comprehensive a review as is practicable of the evidence referred to in subsection (b)(1) that became available since the last review of such evidence under this section; and

(2) make determinations and estimates on the basis of the results of such review and all other reviews conducted for the purposes of this section.

**(f) REPORTS.—**

**(1) INITIAL REPORT.—**

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Under an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies under this section, not later than 540 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the National Academies shall submit to the Secretary and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the activities of the National Academies under the agreement.

(B) **ELEMENTS.**—The report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

(i) The determinations described in subsection (c)(1).

(ii) An explanation of the scientific evidence and reasoning that led to such determinations.

(iii) Any recommendations of the National Academies under subsection (d).

(2) **PERIODIC UPDATES.**—Under an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies under this section, not less frequently than once every two years, the National Academies shall submit to the Secretary and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives an updated report on the activities of the National Academies under the agreement.

(g) **LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.**—The authority to enter into agreements under this section shall be effective for a fiscal year to the extent that appropriations are available.

**(h) ALTERNATIVE CONTRACT SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION.—**

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Secretary is unable within the period prescribed in subsection (a)(2) to enter into an agreement with the National Academies on terms acceptable to the Secretary, the Secretary shall seek to enter into such an agreement with another appropriate scientific organization that—

(A) is not part of the Government;

(B) operates as a not-for-profit entity; and

(C) has expertise and objectivity comparable to that of the National Academies.

(2) **TREATMENT.**—If the Secretary enters into an agreement with another organization

as described in paragraph (1), any reference in this section, section 4, and section 1119 of title 38, United States Code, as added by section 2(a), to the National Academies shall be treated as a reference to the other organization.

(i) **COVERED TOXIN DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “covered toxin” has the meaning given that term in section 1119(e) of title 38, United States Code, as added by section 2(a).

(j) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

**SEC. 4. ACCESS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, AND MEDICINE TO INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Upon request by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (referred to in this section as the “National Academies”), the head of any Federal agency with relevant information shall provide to the National Academies information in the possession of the agency that the National Academies determines useful in conducting a review under section 3(b).

(b) **FEDERAL AGENCY DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “Federal agency” means any agency as that term is defined in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

**SEC. 5. PRESUMPTION RELATING TO PERSONAL INJURY OF CERTAIN FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 8102 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c)(1) In this subsection, the term ‘covered employee’ means an employee of the Department of State, the Department of Defense, or an element of the intelligence community (as defined in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003)) who, on or after August 2, 1990, carried out the job responsibilities of the employee for not fewer than 30 total days in a country or territory while the United States was conducting a contingency operation (as defined in section 101 of title 10) in that country or territory.

“(2) Disability or death from a disease described in paragraph (2) of such section suffered by a covered employee is deemed to have resulted from personal injury sustained while in the performance of the duty of the covered employee, whether or not the covered employee was engaged in the course of employment when the disability or disability resulting in death occurred.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Subsection (c) of section 8102 of such title, as added by subsection (a), shall not be construed to apply to a contractor of a Federal department or agency.

**SA 3835.** Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1301, to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans; as follows:

At the end add the following:

**SEC. . EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SA 3836.** Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3835 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S.

1301, to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike “1 day” and insert “2 days”.

**SA 3837.** Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1301, to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans; as follows:

At the end add the following:

**SEC. . EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 4 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SA 3838.** Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3837 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1301, to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike “4” and insert “5”.

**SA 3839.** Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3838 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the amendment SA 3837 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1301, to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans; as follows:

On page 1, line 1, strike “5” and insert “6”.

**SA 3840.** Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. WICKER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 558, to establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Flood Level Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act” or the “FLOODS Act”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. National Integrated Flood Information System.
- Sec. 4. Observations and modeling for total water prediction.
- Sec. 5. Service coordination hydrologists at River Forecast Centers of the National Weather Service.
- Sec. 6. Improving National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration communication of future flood risks and hazardous flash flood events.
- Sec. 7. Freshwater monitoring along the coast.
- Sec. 8. Tornado warning improvement.
- Sec. 9. Hurricane forecast improvement program.
- Sec. 10. Weather and water research and development planning.
- Sec. 11. Forecast communication coordinators.
- Sec. 12. Estimates of precipitation frequency in the United States.

- Sec. 13. Interagency Committee on Water Management and Infrastructure.
- Sec. 14. National Weather Service hydrologic research fellowship program.
- Sec. 15. Identification and support of consistent, Federal set of forward-looking, long-term meteorological information.
- Sec. 16. Gap analysis on availability of snow-related data to assess and predict flood and flood impacts.
- Sec. 17. Availability to the public of flood-related data.

## SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) **STATE.**—The term “State” means each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

## SEC. 3. NATIONAL INTEGRATED FLOOD INFORMATION SYSTEM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall establish a system, to be known as the “National Integrated Flood Information System”, to better inform and provide for more timely decision making to reduce flood-related effects and costs.

(b) **SYSTEM FUNCTIONS.**—The Administrator, through the National Integrated Flood Information System, shall—

(1) provide an effective flood early warning system that—

(A) collects and integrates information on the key indicators of floods and flood impacts, including streamflow, reservoir release and diversion, precipitation, soil moisture, snow water equivalent, land cover, and evaporative demand;

(B) makes usable, reliable, and timely forecasts of floods;

(C) assesses the severity of flood conditions and effects;

(D) provides information described in subparagraph (A), forecasts described in subparagraph (B), and assessments described in subparagraph (C) at the national, regional, and local levels, as appropriate; and

(E) communicates flood forecasts, flood conditions, and flood impacts to appropriate entities engaged in flood planning, preparedness, and response and post-event flood extent, including—

(i) decision makers at the Federal, State, local, and Tribal levels of government; and

(ii) the public;

(2) provide timely data, information, and products that reflect differences in flood conditions among localities, regions, watersheds, and States;

(3) coordinate and integrate, through interagency agreements as practicable, Federal research and monitoring in support of the flood early warning information system provided under paragraph (1);

(4) use existing forecasting and assessment programs and partnerships;

(5) make improvements in seasonal precipitation and temperature, subseasonal precipitation and temperature, and flood water prediction; and

(6) continue ongoing research and monitoring activities relating to floods, including research activities relating to—

(A) the prediction, length, severity, and impacts of floods and improvement of the accuracy, timing, and specificity of flash flood warnings;

(B) the role of extreme weather events and climate variability in floods; and

(C) how water travels over and through surfaces.

(c) **PARTNERSHIPS.**—The Administrator, through the National Integrated Flood Information System, may—

(1) engage with the private sector to improve flood monitoring, forecasts, land and topography data, and communication, if the Administrator determines that such engagement is appropriate, cost effective, and beneficial to the public and decision makers described in subsection (b)(1)(E)(i);

(2) facilitate the development of 1 or more academic cooperative partnerships to assist in carrying out the functions of the National Integrated Flood Information System described in subsection (b);

(3) use and support monitoring by citizen scientists, including by developing best practices to facilitate maximum data integration, as the Administrator considers appropriate;

(4) engage with, and leverage the resources of, entities within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in existence as of the date of the enactment of this Act, such as the National Weather Service with respect to forecast and warning functions, the National Integrated Drought Information System, the Regional Climate Center, and the National Mesonet Program, to improve coordination of water monitoring, forecasting, and management; and

(5) engage with and support water monitoring by the United States Geological Survey—

(A) to improve the availability and continuity of streamflow data at critical locations through the deployment of rapid deployment gages and the flood-hardening of at-risk streamflow gauges; and

(B) to increase storm surge monitoring data through the deployment of additional storm surge sensors.

(d) **CONSULTATION.**—In developing and maintaining the National Integrated Flood Information System, the Administrator shall consult with relevant Federal, State, local, and Tribal government agencies, research institutions, and the private sector.

(e) **COOPERATION FROM OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.**—Each Federal agency shall cooperate as appropriate with the Administrator in carrying out this section.

## SEC. 4. OBSERVATIONS AND MODELING FOR TOTAL WATER PREDICTION.

(a) **PARTNERSHIPS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall establish partnerships with 1 or more institutions of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) to evaluate observations that would improve total water prediction.

(2) **PRIORITY OBSERVATIONS.**—In establishing partnerships under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall prioritize partnerships to evaluate observations from uncrewed aerial systems.

(b) **MAINTAINED OBSERVATIONS.**—If the Administrator determines that incorporating additional observations improves total water prediction, the Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, continue incorporating those observations.

(c) **MODELING IMPROVEMENTS.**—The Administrator shall advance geographic coverage, resolution, skill, and efficiency of coastal oceanographic modeling, including efforts that improve the coupling of and interoperability between hydrological models and coastal ocean models.

## SEC. 5. SERVICE COORDINATION HYDROLOGISTS AT RIVER FORECAST CENTERS OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.

(a) **DESIGNATION OF SERVICE COORDINATION HYDROLOGISTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the National Weather Service (in this section referred to as the “Director”) shall designate at least 1 service coordination hydrologist at each River Forecast Center of the National Weather Service.

(2) **PERFORMANCE BY OTHER EMPLOYEES.**—Performance of the responsibilities outlined in this section is not limited to the service coordination hydrologist position.

(b) **PRIMARY ROLE OF SERVICE COORDINATION HYDROLOGISTS.**—The primary role of the service coordination hydrologist shall be to carry out the responsibilities required by this section.

(c) **RESPONSIBILITIES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), consistent with the analysis described in section 409 of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-25; 131 Stat. 112), and in order to increase impact-based decision support services, each service coordination hydrologist designated under subsection (a) shall, with respect to hydrology—

(A) be responsible for providing service to the geographic area of responsibility covered by the River Forecast Center at which the service coordination hydrologist is employed to help ensure that users of products and services of the National Weather Service can respond effectively to improve outcomes from flood events;

(B) liaise with users of products and services of the National Weather Service, such as the public, academia, media outlets, users in the hydropower, transportation, recreation, and agricultural communities, and forestry, land, fisheries, and water management interests, to evaluate the adequacy and usefulness of the products and services of the National Weather Service;

(C) collaborate with such River Forecast Centers and Weather Forecast Offices and Federal, State, local, and Tribal government agencies as the Director considers appropriate in developing, proposing, and implementing plans to develop, modify, or tailor products and services of the National Weather Service to improve the usefulness of such products and services;

(D) engage in interagency partnerships with Federal, State, local, and Tribal government agencies to explore the use of forecast-informed reservoir operations to reduce flood risk;

(E) ensure the maintenance and accuracy of flooding call lists, appropriate office flooding policy or procedures, and other flooding information or dissemination methodologies or strategies; and

(F) work closely with Federal, State, local, and Tribal emergency and floodplain management agencies, and other agencies relating to disaster management, to ensure a planned, coordinated, and effective preparedness and response effort.

(2) **OTHER STAFF.**—The Director may assign a responsibility set forth in paragraph (1) to such other staff as the Director considers appropriate to carry out such responsibility.

(d) **ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), a service coordination hydrologist designated under subsection (a) may, with respect to hydrology—

(A) work with a State agency to develop plans for promoting more effective use of products and services of the National Weather Service throughout the State;

(B) identify priority community preparedness objectives;

(C) develop plans to meet the objectives identified under subparagraph (B); and

(D) conduct flooding event preparedness planning and citizen education efforts with and through various State, local, and Tribal

government agencies and other disaster management-related organizations.

(2) OTHER STAFF.—The Director may assign a responsibility set forth in paragraph (1) to such other staff as the Director considers appropriate to carry out such responsibility.

**SEC. 6. IMPROVING NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION COMMUNICATION OF FUTURE FLOOD RISKS AND HAZARDOUS FLASH FLOOD EVENTS.**

(a) ASSESSMENT OF FLASH FLOOD WATCHES AND WARNINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall—

(A) conduct an assessment of—

(i) the flash flood watches and warnings of the National Weather Service; and

(ii) the information delivery to support preparation and responses to floods; and

(B) submit to Congress a report on the findings of the Administrator with respect to the assessment required by subparagraph (A).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The assessment required by paragraph (1)(A) shall include the following:

(A) An evaluation of whether the watches, warnings, and information described in paragraph (1)(A) effectively—

(i) communicate risk to the general public;

(ii) inform action to prevent loss of life and property;

(iii) inform action to support flood preparation and response; and

(iv) deliver information in a manner designed to lead to appropriate action.

(B) Subject to subsection (b)(2), such recommendations as the Administrator may have for—

(i) legislative and administrative action to improve the watches and warnings described in paragraph (1)(A)(i); and

(ii) such research as the Administrator considers necessary to address the focus areas described in paragraph (3).

(3) FOCUS AREAS.—The assessment required by paragraph (1)(A) shall focus on the following areas:

(A) Ways to communicate the risks posed by hazardous flash flood events to the public that are most likely to result in informed decision making regarding the mitigation of those risks.

(B) Ways to provide actionable geographic information to the recipient of a watch or warning for a flash flood, including partnering with emergency response agencies, as appropriate.

(C) Evaluation of information delivery to support the preparation for and response to floods.

(4) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the assessment required by paragraph (1)(A), the Administrator shall consult with—

(A) individuals in the academic sector, including individuals in the field of social and behavioral sciences;

(B) other weather services;

(C) media outlets and other entities that distribute the watches and warnings described in paragraph (1)(A)(i);

(D) floodplain managers and emergency planners and responders, including State, local, and Tribal emergency management agencies;

(E) other government users of the watches and warnings described in paragraph (1)(A)(i), including the Federal Highway Administration; and

(F) such other Federal agencies as the Administrator determines rely on watches and warnings regarding flash floods for operational decisions.

(5) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—The Administrator shall engage with the National Academy of Sciences, as the Administrator considers necessary and practicable,

including by contracting with the National Research Council to review the scientific and technical soundness of the assessment required by paragraph (1)(A), including the recommendations under paragraph (2)(B).

(6) METHODOLOGIES.—In conducting the assessment required by paragraph (1)(A), the Administrator shall use such methodologies as the Administrator considers are generally accepted by the weather enterprise, including social and behavioral sciences.

(b) IMPROVEMENTS TO FLASH FLOOD WATCHES AND WARNINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Based on the assessment required by subsection (a)(1)(A), the Administrator shall make such improvements to the watches and warnings described in that subsection as the Administrator considers necessary—

(A) to improve the communication of the risks posed by hazardous flash flood events; and

(B) to provide actionable geographic information to the recipient of a watch or warning for a flash flood.

(2) REQUIREMENTS REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS.—In conducting the assessment required by subsection (a)(1)(A), the Administrator shall ensure that any recommendation under subsection (a)(2)(B) that the Administrator considers a major change—

(A) is validated by social and behavioral science using a generalizable sample;

(B) accounts for the needs of various demographics, vulnerable populations, and geographic regions;

(C) responds to the needs of Federal, State, local, and Tribal government partners and media partners; and

(D) accounts for necessary changes to federally operated watch and warning propagation and dissemination infrastructure and protocols.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) WATCH; WARNING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the terms “watch” and “warning”, with respect to a hazardous flash flood event, mean products issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, intended for use by the general public—

(i) to alert the general public to the potential for or presence of the event; and

(ii) to inform action to prevent loss of life and property.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The terms “watch” and “warning” do not include technical or specialized meteorological and hydrological forecasts, outlooks, or model guidance products.

(2) WEATHER ENTERPRISE.—The term “weather enterprise” has the meaning given that term in section 2 of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8501).

**SEC. 7. FRESHWATER MONITORING ALONG THE COAST.**

(a) DATA AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT.—The Administrator shall assess the availability of short- and long-term data on large-scale freshwater flooding into oceans, bays, and estuaries, including data on—

(1) flow rate, including discharge;

(2) conductivity;

(3) oxygen concentration;

(4) nutrient load;

(5) water temperature; and

(6) sediment load.

(b) DATA NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—The Administrator shall assess the need for additional data to assess and predict the effect of the flooding and freshwater discharge described in subsection (a).

(c) INVENTORY OF DATA NEEDS.—Based on the assessments required by subsections (a) and (b), the Administrator shall create an inventory of data needs with respect to the

flooding and freshwater discharge described in subsections (a) and (b).

(d) PLANNING.—In planning for the collection of additional data necessary for ecosystem-based modeling of the effect of the flooding and freshwater discharge described in subsections (a) and (b), the Administrator shall use the inventory created under subsection (c).

**SEC. 8. TORNADO WARNING IMPROVEMENT.**

Section 103 of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8513) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) INNOVATIVE OBSERVATIONS.—The Under Secretary shall ensure that the program periodically examines the value of incorporating innovative observations, such as acoustic or infrasonic measurements, observations from phased array radars, and observations from mesonets, with respect to the improvement of tornado forecasts, predictions, and warnings.”.

**SEC. 9. HURRICANE FORECAST IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.**

Section 104(b) of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8514(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) evaluating and incorporating, as appropriate, innovative observations, including acoustic or infrasonic measurements.”.

**SEC. 10. WEATHER AND WATER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING.**

Section 105(2) of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8515(2)) is amended by inserting “and flood-event” after “operational weather”.

**SEC. 11. FORECAST COMMUNICATION COORDINATORS.**

Section 1762(f)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (15 U.S.C. 8521(f)(1)) is amended, in the second sentence, by striking “may” and inserting “shall”.

**SEC. 12. ESTIMATES OF PRECIPITATION FREQUENCY IN THE UNITED STATES.**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—The term “Freely Associated States” means the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia, which have each entered into a Compact of Free Association with the United States.

(2) UNITED STATES.—The term “United States” means the 50 States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Freely Associated States.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish a program, to be known as the “NOAA Precipitation Frequency Atlas of the United States”, to compile, estimate, analyze, and communicate the frequency of precipitation in the United States.

(c) FUNCTIONS.—The NOAA Precipitation Frequency Atlas of the United States—

(1) shall better inform the public and provide information on—

(A) temporal and spatial distribution of heavy precipitation;

(B) analyses of seasonality in precipitation; and

(C) trends in annual maximum series data; and

(2) may serve as the official source of the Federal Government on estimates of precipitation frequency and associated information with respect to the United States.

## (d) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) COVERAGE.—The NOAA Precipitation Frequency Atlas of the United States shall include such estimates of the frequency of precipitation in the United States as the Administrator determines appropriate.

## (2) FREQUENCY.—Such estimates—

(A) shall be conducted not less frequently than once every 10 years; and

(B) may be conducted more frequently if determined appropriate by the Administrator.

(3) PUBLICATION.—Such estimates and methodologies used to conduct such estimates shall be—

(A) subject to an appropriate, scientific process, as determined by the Administrator; and

(B) published on a publicly accessible website of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(e) PARTNERSHIPS.—The Administrator may partner with other Federal agencies, members of the private sector, academic cooperative partnerships, or nongovernment associations to assist in carrying out the functions described in subsection (c).

(f) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator may consult with relevant Federal, State, local, Tribal, and Territorial government agencies, research institutions, and the private sector, as the Administrator determines necessary.

(g) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator may coordinate with other Federal agencies.

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, from amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this Act, \$3,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2030.

#### SEC. 13. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON WATER MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a committee, to be known as the “Interagency Committee on Water Management and Infrastructure” (in this section referred to as the “Water Policy Committee”).

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Water Policy Committee shall be composed of the following members:

- (1) The Administrator.
- (2) The Secretary of the Interior.
- (3) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.
- (4) The Secretary of Agriculture.
- (5) The Secretary of Commerce.
- (6) The Secretary of Energy.
- (7) The Secretary of the Army.
- (8) The heads of such other agencies as the co-chairs consider appropriate.

(c) CO-CHAIRS.—The Water Policy Committee shall be co-chaired by the Secretary of the Interior and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(d) MEETINGS.—The Water Policy Committee shall meet not less frequently than 6 times each year, at the call of the co-chairs.

(e) GENERAL PURPOSE AND DUTIES.—The Water Policy Committee shall ensure that agencies and departments across the Federal Government that engage in water-related matters, including water storage and supplies, water quality and restoration activities, water infrastructure, transportation on United States rivers and inland waterways, and water forecasting, work together where such agencies and departments have joint or overlapping responsibilities to—

(1) improve interagency coordination among Federal agencies and departments on water resource management and water infrastructure issues;

(2) coordinate existing water-related Federal task forces, working groups, and other formal cross-agency initiatives, as appropriate;

(3) prioritize managing the water resources of the United States and promoting resilience of the water-related infrastructure of the United States, including—

(A) increasing water storage, water supply reliability, and drought resiliency;

(B) improving water quality, source water protection, and nutrient management;

(C) promoting restoration activities;

(D) improving water systems, including with respect to drinking water, desalination, water reuse, wastewater, and flood control; and

(E) improving water data management, research, modeling, and forecasting;

(4) improve interagency coordination of data management, access, modeling, and visualization with respect to water-related matters;

(5) promote integrated planning for Federal investments in water-related infrastructure to enhance coordination and protect taxpayer investment; and

(6) support workforce development and efforts to recruit, train, and retain professionals to operate and maintain essential drinking water, wastewater, flood control, hydropower, water delivery, and water storage facilities in the United States.

(f) CROSS-AGENCY PRIORITY RESEARCH NEEDS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Water Policy Committee shall develop and submit to Congress a list of research needs that includes needs for cross-agency research and coordination.

#### SEC. 14. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HYDROLOGIC RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Assistant Administrator” means the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) DECISION SUPPORT SERVICES.—The term “decision support services” means information, including data and refined products, that supports water resources-related decision-making processes.

(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(4) NOAA LINE OFFICES.—The term “NOAA line offices” means the following offices of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:

- (A) The National Ocean Service.
- (B) The National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service.
- (C) The National Marine Fisheries Service.
- (D) The Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.
- (E) The Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.

(b) HYDROLOGIC RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall establish a hydrologic research fellowship program (in this section referred to as the “program”) for qualified individuals.

(2) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL.—For purposes of this section, a qualified individual is an individual who is—

- (A) a citizen of the United States; and
- (B) enrolled in a research-based graduate program, at an institution of higher education, in a field that advances the research priorities developed by the Assistant Administrator under paragraph (7), such as—
  - (i) hydrology;
  - (ii) earth sciences;
  - (iii) atmospheric sciences;
  - (iv) computer sciences;
  - (v) engineering;
  - (vi) environmental sciences;

(vii) geosciences;

(viii) urban planning; or

(ix) related social sciences.

(3) AWARD GUIDELINES.—Fellowships under the program shall be awarded pursuant to guidelines established by the Assistant Administrator.

(4) SELECTION PREFERENCE.—In selecting qualified individuals for participation in the program, the Assistant Administrator shall give preference to applicants from historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions.

(5) PLACEMENT.—The program shall support the placement of qualified individuals in positions within the executive branch of the Federal Government where such individuals can address and advance the research priorities developed by the Assistant Administrator under paragraph (7).

(6) FELLOWSHIP TERM.—A fellowship under the program shall be for a period of up to 2 years.

(7) FELLOWSHIP RESEARCH PRIORITIES.—The Assistant Administrator, in consultation with representatives from the NOAA line offices, the United States Geological Survey, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Army Corps of Engineers, as appropriate, shall develop and publish priorities for the conduct of research by fellows, which may include the following:

(A) Advance the collaborative development of a flexible community-based water resources modeling system.

(B) Apply artificial intelligence and machine learning capabilities to advance existing hydrologic modeling capabilities.

(C) Support the evolution and integration of hydrologic modeling within an Earth Systems Modeling Framework.

(D) Improve visualizations of hydrologic model outputs.

(E) Advance the state of coupled freshwater and salt water modeling and forecasting capabilities.

(F) Advance understanding and process representation of water quality parameters.

(G) Advance the assimilation of in-situ and remotely sensed observations and data.

(H) Support the integration of social science to advance decision support services.

(I) Develop methods to study groundwater sustainability and estimate the efficiency of recharge management.

#### (c) DIRECT HIRING.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—During fiscal year 2022 and any fiscal year thereafter, the head of any Federal agency may appoint, without regard to the provisions of subchapter I of chapter 33 of title 5, United States Code, other than sections 3303 and 3328 of that title, to a position with the Federal agency a recipient of a fellowship under the program who—

(A) earned a degree from a program described in subsection (b)(2)(B);

(B) successfully fulfilled the requirements of the fellowship within the executive branch of the Federal Government; and

(C) meets qualification standards established by the Office of Personnel Management.

(2) EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY.—The direct hire authority provided by this subsection shall be exercised with respect to an individual described in paragraph (1) not later than 2 years after the date on which the individual completed the fellowship under the program.

#### SEC. 15. IDENTIFICATION AND SUPPORT OF CONSISTENT, FEDERAL SET OF FORWARD-LOOKING, LONG-TERM METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) EXTREME WEATHER.—The term “extreme weather” includes observed or anticipated



severe and unseasonable atmospheric conditions, including drought, heavy precipitation, hurricanes, tornadoes and other windstorms (including derechos), large hail, extreme heat, extreme cold, flooding, sustained temperatures or precipitation that deviate substantially from historical averages, and any other weather event that the Administrator determines qualifies as extreme weather.

(2) **LONG-TERM.**—The term “long-term” shall have such meaning as the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, in consultation with the Administrator, considers appropriate for purposes of this section.

(3) **OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL TRENDS.**—The term “other environmental trends” means wildfires, coastal flooding, inland flooding, land subsidence, rising sea levels, and any other challenges relating to changes in environmental systems over time that the Administrator determines qualify as environmental challenges other than extreme weather.

(b) **IDENTIFICATION AND SUPPORT OF CONSISTENT, FEDERAL SET OF FORWARD-LOOKING, LONG-TERM METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION.**—The Administrator shall identify, and support research that enables, a consistent, Federal set of forward-looking, long-term meteorological information that models future extreme weather events, other environmental trends, projections, and up-to-date observations, including mesoscale information as determined appropriate by the Administrator.

#### **SEC. 16. GAP ANALYSIS ON AVAILABILITY OF SNOW-RELATED DATA TO ASSESS AND PREDICT FLOOD AND FLOOD IMPACTS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, and the Army Corps of Engineers, shall conduct an analysis of gaps in the availability of snow-related data to assess and predict floods and flood impacts, including data on the following:

- (1) Snow water equivalent.
- (2) Snow depth.
- (3) Snowpack temperature.
- (4) Snow and mixed-phase precipitation.
- (5) Snow melt.
- (6) Rain-snow line.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report on—

- (1) the findings of the gap analysis required by subsection (a); and
- (2) opportunities for additional collaboration among Federal agencies to collect snow-related data to better assess and predict floods and flood impacts.

#### **SEC. 17. AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC OF FLOOD-RELATED DATA.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall make flood-related data available to the public on the website of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(b) **COST.**—The Administrator may make the data under subsection (a) freely accessible or available at a cost that does not exceed the cost of preparing the data.

#### **AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I have 6 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

#### **COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### **COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS**

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### **COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### **COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS**

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### **COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION, PRODUCT SAFETY, AND DATA SECURITY**

The Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Data Security is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### **MANUFACTURING.GOV ACT**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 124, S. 1037.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1037) to provide for the establishment of a section of the website of the Department of Commerce that shall serve as the primary hub for information relating to Federal manufacturing programs, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which was reported out of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the part printed in italic, as follows:

#### **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

*This Act may be cited as the “Manufacturing.gov Act”.*

#### **SEC. 2. MANUFACTURING.GOV HUB.**

(a) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-

retary, in coordination with the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Commerce, shall modify the manufacturing.gov website by establishing a section of the website to be known as the “manufacturing.gov hub”.

(c) **FUNCTIONS.**—The manufacturing.gov hub established under subsection (b) shall—

(1) serve as the primary hub for information relating to every Federal manufacturing program, including the programs identified in the report of the Government Accountability Office entitled “U.S. Manufacturing” (GAO 17-240), published on March 28, 2017;

(2) provide the contact information of relevant program offices carrying out the Federal manufacturing programs described in paragraph (1);

(3) provide an avenue for public input and feedback relating to—

(A) the functionality of the website of the Department of Commerce;

(B) the Federal manufacturing programs described in paragraph (1); and

(C) any other manufacturing-related challenges experienced by manufacturers in the United States;

(4) establish web pages within the hub that shall focus on—

(A) technology and research and development;

(B) trade;

(C) workforce development and training;

(D) industrial commons and supply chains;

and

(E) small and medium manufacturers; and

(5) use machine learning to—

(A) identify frequently asked questions; and

(B) disseminate to the public answers to the questions identified under subparagraph (A).

(d) **NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.**—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this section. The Secretary shall carry out this section using amounts otherwise available to the Secretary for such purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1037), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### **FLOOD LEVEL OBSERVATION, OPERATIONS, AND DECISION SUPPORT ACT**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. 558 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 558) to establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.